

Applicants:           Cornelia J. Forster et al.  
Application No.:    10/632,340

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 8, 12-14, 18, and 23-28 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 7, 8, 12-14, 18, and 23-26, and 28 stand allowed. Claims 3, 4, and 27 stand rejected.

The Claim Amendments

Applicants have amended claim 3 to depend from claim 1. Applicants have amended claim 27 to depend from claim 26.

None of these amendments add new matter.

The Office Action

The Examiner has rejected claims 3, 4, and 27 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as “being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.” The Examiner contends that claim 3 is indefinite “as it depends on cancelled claim 2,” and claim 4 is also indefinite as “it is indirectly dependent upon claim 2 due to its dependency on claim 3.” Finally, the Examiner contends that claim 27 is indefinite as it depends on cancelled claim 9.

Applicants have amended the claims to depend from non-cancelled claims, thus obviating the rejection. More specifically, applicants have amended claim 3 to depend from claim 1. Applicants have also amended claim 27 to depend from claim 26. Applicants respectfully submit that amended claims 3, 4, and 27 are definite because they do not depend, either directly or indirectly, from cancelled claims. Accordingly, the rejection is obviated.

Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in order for allowance.

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CONCLUSION

Applicants request that the Examiner enter the above amendments, consider the accompanying remarks, and allow the claims to pass to issue. If the Examiner believes that a telephone call would expedite prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at any time.

Respectfully submitted,

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